

UNAPPROVED

MINUTES

SELECTMEN'S MEETING

@Memorial Library Community Room

APRIL 7, 2008

7 p.m.

A regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by First Selectman, Janet M. McCarty. Also present were Stephen A. Fontana, Second Selectman, and Michael Freda, Third Selectman.

At this time, the Board heard public comments relative to the agenda.

Pamela Parrella, 25 Trumbull Place, Republican Registrar of Voters, commented that she deserved a higher rate of pay and benefits based on the hours that she works, and that the decision by the Board of Finance to send the issue back to the Board of Selectmen was unfair. She stated that the registrars have no union representation and no supervisor to negotiate for them.

David Yaccarino, 1804 Hartford Turnpike, asked if any other employee in town who works more than 19 hours is still considered part-time. He also asked who is responsible to set the pay for the Registrars of Voters. He stated that the workers whose job it is to allow others to vote should have more rights. Ms. McCarty noted that there are part-time employees who work as long it takes to get the job done.

Richard Werner, 15 Elliot Court, Republican Deputy Registrar of Voters, read a statement supporting an increase of more than \$20,000/year for the Registrars of Voters.

John Lambert, 25 Trumbull Place, asked Mr. Fontana what changes occurred since the last Board of Selectmen's Meeting that would cause him to change his vote. Mr. Fontana stated that he felt the Board of Finance had a role to play and that his vote was a recommendation to the Board of Finance to determine a reasonable pay.

Florence Sinow, 18 Maple Avenue, stated that after researching the topic, she understood that the Board of Selectmen set the pay, not the Board of Finance.

James DiCarlo, Chief of Police, stated that all department heads have asked for additional personnel and have justified their requests, but they have to accept the decisions of the Board of Finance in setting the budget.

Ms. McCarty explained that she had brought this issue before the Board of Selectmen, as Third Selectman, on a number of occasions and had advocated for an increase in pay for the registrars of voters. On the two previous occasions when a change occurred in the registrars pay, it was forwarded to the Board of Finance for approval.

Salvatore Bonito, 511 Elm Street #7-5, asked how an issue becomes part of the agenda. Ms. McCarty explained that the agenda must be posted 24 hours before the meeting and any agenda item should be submitted before then.

A motion was made by Mr. Fontana to approve the minutes of the Regular Selectmen's Meeting of March 6, 2008.

Voted: McCarty – yes, Fontana – yes, Freda – yes

A motion was made by Mr. Fontana to approve the minutes of the Special Selectmen's Meeting of March 27, 2008.

Voted: McCarty – yes, Fontana – yes, Freda – yes

A motion was made by Mr. Fontana to approve the following resolution:

Community Services Child Nutrition Programs

RESOLVED: That the Board of Selectmen take action to revise the authorized signers of the ED- 099 Agreement for Child Nutrition Programs to First Selectman, Janet M. McCarty as signature #1 to enter into the Agreement for Child Nutrition Programs on behalf of the institution and to sign claims for reimbursement. Furthermore, Director of Community Services & Recreation, Gerardo Sorkin is authorized as signature #2, to sign the claims for reimbursement in the absence or incapacity of the first designated individual.

Voted: McCarty – yes, Fontana – yes, Freda – yes

A motion was made by Mr. Fontana to approve the following resolution:

Community Services Day Care Center

RESOLVED: That the First Selectman, Janet M. McCarty, is empowered to enter into and amend contractual instruments in the name and on behalf of this Contractor with the Department of Education of the State of Connecticut for a child and adult care food program and to affix the corporate seal.

Voted: McCarty – yes, Fontana – yes, Freda – yes

A motion was made by Mr. Fontana to approve the following resolution:

Registrars of Voters Compensation

RESOLVED: That upon the recommendation of the Board of Finance, the Board of Selectmen reconsider the salary and benefits of the Registrars of Voters to reflect that their salary be increased from \$16,027 to \$20,000; that they are paid \$485 for each election, primary, referendum and audit, and that the positions remain part-time without benefits.

Mr. Fontana amended the motion to include the effective date of 7-01-08, the start of the new budget year. Mr. Freda asked if there was a legal opinion in writing addressing the question regarding who had the final say in setting the pay of the registrars of voters. Ms. McCarty answered that town counsel had been consulted but had not provided his decision in writing. Mr. Freda asked Mr. Fontana if he had changed his position since the last Board of Selectmen's meeting. Mr. Fontana replied that he recognized the value of the work being performed and in order to retain the best people, a raise was deserved. He had

stated that he had not been provided with any information to make an informed decision himself (i.e., no comparative information from other towns and no opinion on whether the Board of Selectmen could create a job with full-time status). He voted for the motion as a recommendation to the Board of Finance to make a determination as to the amount of pay and appropriate status. He further stated that the Board of Finance did send their determination back to the Board of Selectmen and that he concurred. Mr. Freda asked if a salary survey had been conducted and recommended it be done with the survey being conducted for department heads. Ms. McCarty responded that the RFP had already been issued and only included department heads and deputies. Mr. Freda said that he would abstain from the vote for lack of this information.

Voted: McCarty – yes, Fontana – yes, Freda – abstain

A motion was made by Mr. Fontana to call for the Annual Budget Town Meeting to be held on Monday, May 12, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. in the auditorium of the North Haven High School, 221 Elm Street, North Haven, CT 06473.

Referendum to be held on Tuesday, May 20, 2008.

Voted: McCarty – yes, Fontana – yes, Freda – yes

Ms. McCarty announced that the April Board of Finance meeting was being postponed to April 16, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. in Conference Room #1 in the North Haven Town Hall.

Mr. Fontana moved to approve the following property tax refunds:
Byron F. Blakeslee, 476 Clintonville Road, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$300.00

Clintonville Development LLC, 1171 Main Street, Branford, CT 06405, in the amount of \$12,713.62

Michael E. DellaValle, 112 Mowry Street, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$174.26

Bruce F. Esposito, 317 Warner Road, East Haven, CT 06512, in the amount of \$307.87

Larry D. Fitzgerald, 102 Sackett Point Road, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$55.68, and in the amount of \$44.27

Mimi M. Lines or Keane Callahan, 100 Tokeneke Drive, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$ 163.88, and in the amount of \$139.41

Nissan Infiniti LT, 2901 Kinwest Parkway, Irving, TX 75063, in the amount of \$88.28

Nissan Infiniti LT, P.O. Box 650214, Dallas, TX 75265, in the amount of \$338.43, and in the amount of \$59.73

Thomas & Elaine Novinsky, 189 Spring Road, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$56.30, and in the amount of \$78.36, and in the amount of \$69.44

Daniel J. Orth Jr., 5 North Hill Road, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$23.45

Robert Pethick, 108 Summer Lane, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$213.57, and in the amount of \$259.85

Ricci Cavallaro Painting Inc., 7 Peck Street, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$ 2.01

Cathy A. or John N. Teixeira, 42 Farrel Street, Hamden, CT 06518, in the amount of \$450.38, and in the amount of \$362.67

VW Credit Leasing LTD, 1401 Franklin Blvd., Libertyville, IL 60048, in the amount of \$176.37

Arthur J. & Janine M. Wild, 9 Peters Court, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$2,302.58

Voted: McCarty – yes, Fontana – yes, Freda – yes

Mr. Fontana moved to approve the following bond releases, as recommended by the Inland Wetlands Commission:

Toll Brothers, 421 Clintonville Road, North Haven, CT 06473, Total Release in the amount of \$20,000.00

John Peters/Peters Irrigation, LLC, 451-455 State Street, North Haven, CT 06473, Total Release in the amount of \$2,500.00

Norman L. Brockett, 659 Middletown Avenue, North Haven, CT 06473, Total Release in the amount of \$2,500.00

Voted: McCarty – yes, Fontana – yes, Freda – yes

Mr. Fontana moved the appointment of Katherine F. Lofquist (R), 35 Grove Road, to the Commission on Aging to fill the vacancy left by the resignation of Pearl E. Merola (R), term to expire 12/31/08.

Mr. Freda had questioned whether a member of the Commission on Aging was required to be a resident of senior housing in town when the motion was made to make the appointment at the March Board of Selectmen's meeting. The members of the Board of Selectmen received the section of the Town Ordinances addressing this issue. Mr. Freda concurred that there was no such requirement.

Voted: McCarty – yes, Fontana – yes, Freda – yes

Ms. McCarty announced that the Town Ordinances were now available on the town website.

Ms. McCarty announced that the next regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen would be on Thursday, May 8, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. in the Library Community Room. It was previously announced that the May meeting would start at 6:30 p.m. to discuss the recommendations of the Ethics Review Committee regarding updating the Town of North Haven Code of Ethics. Ms. McCarty explained that due to other business that needed to be addressed and to give the public additional time to comment, the discussion regarding the Code of Ethics would take place at the July Board of Selectmen's meeting. Ms. McCarty also announced that a special meeting of the Board of Selectmen would be held to set the agenda for the Annual Budget Town Meeting, the date and time to be announced and to be posted in the Town Clerk's office and on the town website.

Ms. McCarty introduced Ronald Penton, president of the North Haven Trail Association. He asked for the support of the administration of the Town of North Haven in the joint application with Wallingford of a \$1.5 million federal grant to help in the design and construction of the Quinnipiac River Linear Trail. He stated that the support of the town played a role in whether the grant would be approved. He further stated that the association had hoped that the town could include an appropriation in the budget for this cause, and noted that Wallingford is allocating \$250,000 in its budget. Ms. McCarty explained that the request of \$250,000 was something that the town could not afford at this time. Mr. Penton submitted a draft letter to be reviewed by the Board of Selectmen, to be sent to Rosa DeLauro's office for consideration for the federal grant appropriation. Ms. McCarty noted that a letter had already been sent from her office in support of this appropriation and that the letter presented by Mr. Penton was forwarded to the other selectmen for review. Ms. McCarty stated that this project would be a great benefit to the town and along with the acquisition of the Griest property, is of interest to the town. She explained that the priority now was to see if the people of the town will support the budget. Mr. Freda asked if any allocation could be phased in. Mr. Penton responded that any level of support would help. Mr. Fontana stated that he thought this project was a great idea and that it would be wise to structure the assistance. He noted that Wallingford was a bigger town than North Haven and could better afford the allocation at this time. It was decided that the members would review the letter submitted by Mr. Penton to send to Rosa DeLauro's office and continue the process of pursuing the grant. Mr. Penton explained that he had arranged a meeting with the First Selectman to further discuss this project.

The board entertained comments from the public.

David Yaccarino, 1804 Hartford Turnpike, stated that the linear trail would be great for the community and that it would have great public support.

Louis Mele, 25 King Arthur Court, asked if all the money approved to renovate the town campus has been spent. Mr. Fontana noted that \$10 million had been approved for the renovations. The allocation for the library was \$5 million,

\$2 million for the police station and annex, \$2 million for the town hall and \$1 million for a community room. The community room was voted down at a town meeting. The library renovations came in under budget; Chief DiCarlo explained that the police station was renovated but still needed \$25,000 to complete the project. The Board of Finance appropriated \$20,000 in the current budget. Renovations of the town hall have not been done, but the bonding is still viable.

Ann Ruocco, 23 Ansonia Drive, asked if there would be a sign on the Green with the information about the Budget Referendum. She also stated that the assessments for the 2009 revaluation need to be justified and said that she thought the dates for revaluation were too close together.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Ms. McCarty moved for adjournment at 7:45 p.m.

Voted: McCarty – yes, Fontana – yes, Freda – yes

